I’m going to talk about my father; Kariki Ada.

My father was at 17 mile that is when he was recruited as a war carrier. They used horses and donkeys to transport cargoes to Ilolo and from there they would carry all the way to the Imita Gap. And from there they used to carry the wounded back.

They used to escort the soldiers up to Ilolo: from there they used to carry from Port Moresby to Imita Gap. It was a fearful experience for my father. They used to hide behind rocks and mountains all the way to places like Naoro on the Kokoda Track. They were recruited by the whites and were used as spies for the Australia and American soldiers.

My last word is that:

Gaukara – Kava, wok nating- pay lasi. lau moale, though no benefit I’m happy you came here to conduct this interview. This is the first time people like you came here to record such stories after war came here. It is a long time story.
An oral history collection recording the memories and stories of Papua New Guineans about World War Two

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